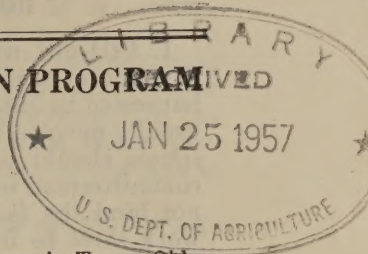


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, MAY 1, 1936

1936 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM  
IN BRIEF  
For the  
SOUTHERN REGION



(This leaflet outlines the procedure to be followed by farmers in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida. Additional details may be obtained from the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program—Southern Region, Bulletin No. 1 Revised, Bulletin No. 2, and from county agents or committeemen.)

THINGS PARTICIPATING FARMERS SHOULD DO

1. ATTEND COMMUNITY MEETINGS.
2. BECOME MEMBERS OF COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS.
3. VOTE IN ELECTION OF COMMUNITY COMMITTEE.
4. FILL OUT WORK SHEETS AND ASSIST COMMITTEE TO DETERMINE 1936 SOIL-DEPLETING BASES.
5. PLANT A PART OF THEIR SOIL-DEPLETING BASE ACREAGES TO SOIL-CONSERVING CROPS.
6. CARRY OUT APPROVED SOIL-BUILDING PRACTICES.
7. MAKE APPLICATION FOR PAYMENTS ON THE PRESCRIBED FORM.

The Agricultural Conservation Program was designed to carry out the provisions of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act of 1936. The primary purpose of the program is to conserve and improve the Nation's farm land.

The program encourages every farmer to participate in the conservation of our national agricultural resources. Farmers may qualify for payments by increasing the acreage in crops that conserve or build up the soil, and by adopting practices that improve the soil. The program, although national in scope, has been adapted to local conditions.

In organizing the program, community meetings were held and community committeemen elected; County Agricultural Conservation Associations were formed and county committeemen elected. A State committee was selected to see that the provisions of the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program are carried out in each State.

KINDS OF PAYMENTS

**Class I, or soil-conserving, payment.**—This payment will be made to the farmer who in 1936 devotes a part of his base acreage of soil-depleting crops to soil-conserving crops or uses.

**Class II, or soil-building, payment.**—This payment will be made to the farmer who in 1936 carries out one or more approved soil-building practices on his cropland or pasture.

A farmer may qualify for either or both of such payments.

### HOW FARMERS QUALIFY FOR PAYMENTS

1. **Fill out work sheets.**—The work sheet provides spaces for a description of the farm, for recording the acreage and yield of crops harvested in 1935, and for the producer to record the acreage that is usually devoted to each crop and the usual yield of each crop. These spaces should be filled out under the supervision of a community committeeman or the county agent. Filling out the work sheet does not bind the farmer in any way. It is necessary, however, that a work sheet be filled out and filed with the county committee if an application for payment is to be made at a later date.

2. **File work sheets with county committee.**—A copy of the approved work sheet is to be returned to each farmer after the committee has gone over the work sheet and has adjusted the bases established for the special soil-depleting crops and for the group of general soil-depleting crops.

3. **Adjust farming operations** in keeping with the purposes of the program.

4. **File**, on a prescribed form, **application for payment** with county committee.

### HOW LAND USE IS CLASSIFIED

Cropland is land from which at least one crop other than wild hay was harvested between January 1, 1930, and January 1, 1936. It also is all other land in orchards or vineyards which had not reached bearing age on January 1, 1936. It is important to note that cropland does not include land which has been in permanent pasture since January 1, 1930. A farmer's cropland will be classified under two headings—soil-depleting and soil-conserving.

The following crops are classed as soil-depleting:

Corn, cotton, tobacco, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, rice, sugarcane, truck and vegetable crops, including melons and strawberries; peanuts if harvested as nuts; grain sorghums, sweet sorghums, millets, small grains harvested for grain or hay; and soybeans if harvested for crushing.

Cropland devoted to any of the following uses is classified as soil-conserving crop acreage:

Annual winter legumes, including vetch, winter peas, bur and crimson clover; biennial legumes, including sweet and alsike clover; perennial legumes, including alfalfa, kudzu, and sericea; summer legumes, including soybeans (except when produced for seed for crushing), velvetbeans, crotalaria, cowpeas; and annual varieties of Lespedeza.

Peanuts, when pastured.

Perennial grasses, including Dallis, redtop, orchard, Bermuda, carpet or grass mixtures, also Sudan grass.

Winter cover crops, including rye, barley, oats, and grain mixtures, winter pastured or not, if turned as green manure, or if harvested and followed by summer legumes.

Forest trees, if planted on crop land since January 1, 1934.

Acreage devoted to the following uses will be classified as neutral:

Vineyards, tree fruits, small fruits, nut trees, idle cropland, cultivated fallow land (including clean cultivated orchards and vineyards), wasteland, roads, lanes, lots, yards, etc., and woodland other than cropland planted to forest trees since January 1, 1934.



## HOW THE SOIL-DEPLETING BASES ARE ESTABLISHED

The soil-depleting base acreage is established by the county committee from the data furnished by the producer. In most cases the soil-depleting bases will approximate the bases that could have been established under the 1936 adjustment programs. If no cotton, tobacco, peanuts, rice, or sugarcane for sugar grew on the farm in 1935, the base will approximate the acreage planted to soil-depleting crops in 1935. The acreage held out of production of a particular soil-depleting crop under AAA programs will be included in the bases of such crops. Other adjustments may be made if the producer's soil-depleting base or bases are unusually high or low due to weather or other factors.

The total soil-depleting base for a farm includes all the acreage ordinarily planted to soil-depleting crops.

The general soil-depleting base represents all soil-depleting acres with the exception of those planted to cotton, tobacco, peanuts, rice, and sugarcane for sugar.

The soil-depleting base for cotton, rice, tobacco, and peanuts will approximate the bases that would have been established for these crops under the 1936 AAA adjustment programs, but adjustments may be made to correct inequities. The base for sugarcane will be the acreage planted to the crop in 1936, unless the acreage planted will with normal yields exceed the quota established for sugarcane. In that case the producer's base acreage shall be his pro-rata share of the acreage needed to produce the quota.

The base rice acreage for any producer in 1936 will be the acreage assigned to him in 1935, subject to adjustment to correct inequities.

## RATES OF AND LIMITS ON CLASS I PAYMENTS

The class I, or soil-conserving, payment will be made on land shifted from soil-depleting base acreage to a soil-conserving crop or use.

The rate of payment for cotton base acreage planted to soil-conserving crops in 1936 will be 5 cents for each pound of the normal yield per acre of the farm.

The rate of payment for tobacco will be: Burley and Flue-cured, 5 cents per pound; Georgia-Florida type 62, 6 cents per pound; Georgia-Florida type 45, or any other type, 3 cents per pound.

The rate of payment for peanuts will be  $1\frac{1}{4}$  cents per pound.

The rice payment will be 20 cents for each 100 pounds of the producer's domestic consumption quota of rice if the acreage planted to rice in 1936 is between 85 percent and 100 percent of the producer's base rice acreage. Deductions will be made if the acreage planted in 1936 is less than 85 percent or more than 100 percent of the base. The domestic consumption quota is that percentage of the producer's average rice production which is required for domestic consumption.

The sugar payment will be  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound for each 100 pounds of sugar normally produced on the sugarcane base acreage.

The rate of payment for diversion from the general soil-depleting base acreage to soil-conserving crops will be based on the productivity of the land in the farm.

The above rates are subject to a pro rata revision either upward or downward; however, the rates shall not be increased or decreased by more than 10 percent.



Class I, or soil-conserving, payment may be made on diversion up to 35 percent of a farm's cotton base, but the payments for a county or group of counties may not exceed 25 percent of the cotton base for the county or group of counties.

The maximum class I payment for tobacco will be on 30 percent of a farm's tobacco base; for peanuts, 20 percent; and for the general soil-depleting base, 15 percent. A producer might divert additional acreage, but he would not receive class I payments for so doing.

#### RATES AND LIMITS ON CLASS II PAYMENTS

The class II, or soil-building, payment as set forth in Southern Region Bulletin No. 2, will be made for practices which actually improve the soil. These payments will be made for seedings of legumes, turning under green manure crops, establishment of permanent pastures, planting of forest trees, liming, terracing, and the application of acid phosphate on specified soil-conserving crops and pastures. Other soil-building practices may be approved to meet special local conditions.

The class II, or soil-building, payment is limited for each farm by the soil-building allowance for that farm. That allowance is the most that the operator of a farm can receive for soil-building practices on that farm. The limit for the soil-building allowance is computed on the basis of \$1 an acre for each acre that the farmer devotes to soil-conserving crops in 1936, unless he has less than 10 acres, in which case his maximum soil-building allowance is \$10.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS AND DEDUCTIONS

Deductions will be made from the payments to the farmer unless he has an acreage in soil-conserving crops in 1936, equal to the sum of 20 percent of the base acreage of cotton, tobacco, and peanuts; 40 percent of the sugarcane base acreage; 25 percent of the rice base acreage; and 15 percent of the general soil-depleting base acreage after the acreage needed for production of food and feed to meet his home farm needs has been deducted.

The deductions for each acre that the farm falls short of the minimum soil-conserving acreage will be one and one-half times the per-acre rate of the class I payment for diversion from the general soil-depleting base. If the class I payment for diversion from the general soil-depleting base is \$6 per acre, the deduction rate for that farm would be \$9 per acre.

Deductions will be made if the producer's plantings in 1936, of crops with special bases exceed the bases established for these crops, or if the sum of the soil-depleting crops planted exceed the total soil-depleting base. The amount of the deduction will be the excess acreage times the rate of payment for diversion from the base which has been exceeded.

#### DIVISION OF PAYMENTS

The division of payments between landlord and tenant will be:

37½ percent to the person furnishing the land;

12½ percent to the person furnishing the work stock and tools;

50 percent to be divided in the same proportion as the crops or the proceeds from crops on which class I payments are made, are divided.

A change may be made in the division of payments if it is recommended by the State Agricultural Conservation Committee and approved by the Secretary of Agriculture.